

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ADP-00

IO-13 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 INR-10

NSAE-00 FAA-00 OIC-04 DOTE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-15 RSR-01 /169 W
----- 046430

R 241722Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2747

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 22664

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, PINS, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: ICAO EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY/DIPLOMATIC
CONFERENCE, ROME, AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 21, 1973

REF: STATE 158225

1. WITHOUT ANY REAL EXPECTATION OF MODIFYING FRENCH POSITION
BUT ESSENTIALLY IN ORDER EVIDENCE CONTINUING CLOSE CONSULTATION
PRIOR ROME MEETINGS, WE CONVEYED REFTEL VIEWS TO COPIN OF
FOREIGN MINISTRY. RECALLING GUILLAUME ATTITUDE REPORTED PARA 6
PARIS 19530, WE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT UPON FURTHER REFLECTION AND
IN LIGHT OUR LATEST ARGUMENTS GOF WOULD COME TO SHARE OUR VIEWS.

2. COPIN SAID PERSONALLY HE FOUND US ARGUMENTS PERSUASIVE, THOUGH
LAWYERS ON FRENCH DELEGATION WOULD LIKELY BE MORE DIFFICULT TO
CONVINCE. GOF WAS AWARE MANY COUNTRIES SHARE US RESERVATIONS ON
PROPOSED REVISION RULE 20. HOWEVER, GOF WAS NOT LOCKED INTO ANY
RIGID POSITION AND WOULD WAIT AND SEE HOW SITUATION DEVELOPED IN
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ROME, THOUGH HE WARNED THAT ANY EVENTUAL CHANGE IN FRENCH POSITION

ON RULE 20 WOULD OCCUR ONLY SLOWLY.

3. REFERRING TO FRENCH DESIRE LEAVE OPTIONS OPEN UNTIL AFTER THEY ARE ABLE GUAGE ATTITUDES AND ATMOSPHERE AT ROME, COPIN SAID THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, SOME IN FOREIGN MINISTRY FEAR POSSIBILITY OF ARAB/AFRICAN WALKOUT AT ROME. HE SAID THIS "FEAR" WAS NOT BASED ON ANY HARD INFO BUT RATHER FROM READING OF ATTITUDES TO DATE, NOTABLY, FACT THAT AFRICANS IN PARTICULAR HAVE BEEN SINGULARLY UNCOMMUNICATIVE THUS FAR IN RESPONSE FRENCH SOUNDINGS ON OUTLOOK FOR ROME MEETINGS. COPIN SAW THIS AS UNUSUAL AND TROUBLING SIGNM AT SAME TIME, SECURITY COUNCIL AND ICAO RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING RECENT ISRAELI HIJACKING AS WELL AS SOLIDARITY DISPLAYED AMONG ARAB STATES ON OCCASION OF JAL HIJACKING WERE HELPFUL DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING ARAB ATTITUDE. WE INFORMED COPIN EMBASSY HAD NO INFO SUGGESTING POSSIBLE ARAB/AFRICAN WALKOUT.

4. COPIN SAID COMPOSITION FRENCH DELEGATION WAS NOT AS OF MID-WEEK YET DEFINITELY APPROVED. HOWEVER, HE CONFIRMED THAT GRIMAUD WOULD SERVE AS CHAIRMAN FOR ONLY RELATIVELY SHORT PERIOD AFTER WHICH GUILLAUME WOULD TAKE OVER AS EFFECTIVE HEAD OF DELEGATION.
EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DECONTROL.
STONE

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